

CLAIMS:

1. A circuit (110) for reading data from a data carrier (190), the circuit comprising
 - (a) a reading unit (114) for reading data from the data carrier; and
 - (b) a controller (116) for controlling the circuit;
- 5 characterized in that
 - (c) the circuit further comprises a detection unit (116) for detecting a format of the data carrier; and
 - (d) the controller is configurable to control the circuit to read data from the data carrier in accordance with the detected data carrier format.
- 10 2. A circuit as claimed in claim 1, wherein the circuit further comprises a memory (118) for storing multiple data portions for configuring the configurable reading unit to read data in accordance with the detected data carrier format from the data carrier.
- 15 3. An apparatus (100) for processing data, comprising:
 - (a) a host system (140, 122, 120) for processing the data read from a data carrier;
 - (b) means (111) for receiving the data carrier; and
 - (c) the circuit as claimed in claim 1.
- 20 4. An apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein:
 - (a) the reading unit is an ATAPI drive;
 - (b) the multiple data carrier formats comprise Super Audio Compact Disc and Digital Versatile Disc; and
 - (c) the host comprises a Super Audio Compact Disc data decoder and an MPEG
- 25 video data decoder.
5. An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein the ATAPI drive is connected to the MPEG video data decoder and to the Super Audio Compact Disc data decoder via a standard ATAPI interface.

6. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the ATAPI drive is further connected to the Super Audio Compact Disc data decoder via an extra 2-pin connector for transferring an additional signal from the ATAPI drive to the Super Audio Compact Disc data decoder.
7. An apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein the spare pin of the ATAPI interface is used to transfer an additional signal from the ATAPI drive to the Super Audio Compact Disc data decoder.
8. An apparatus as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein the additional signal is the EFM+ signal.
9. An apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in case the detected data carrier is a Super Audio Compact Disc, the ATAPI drive is configured to:
- (a) detect and decrypt the Super Audio Compact Disc mark;
 - (b) interpret information in accordance with the Super Audio Compact Disc standard; and
 - (c) perform hybrid disc handling.
10. A method of reading data from a data carrier (190) , characterized in that the method comprises the steps of:
- (a) detecting the format of a data carrier from which data is to be read;
 - (b) configuring the reading circuit for reading data from the data carrier in accordance with the detected data carrier format; and
 - (c) reading data from the data carrier in accordance with the detected data carrier format.
11. A data carrier (150) comprising data for configuring a processing unit to perform the method as claimed in claim 10.